

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action of February 7, 2007.

Reexamination, reconsideration, and allowance of the application and all presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this First Response, claims 1, 6-9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 24-28, and 30-34 are pending in this application, and claims 1, 6-9, 11, 12, 15, 16, and 26-28 are directly amended herein, and claims 30-34 are newly added. Further, claims 2-5, 10, 17-23, and 29 have been canceled via the amendments set forth herein. It is believed that the foregoing amendments add no new matter to the present application.

Response to Claim Objections

Claim 6 is objected to as allegedly having no patentable distinction with claim 2. Applicants respectfully assert that claim 2 requires a "bit" to be "set" while claim 6 does not, and for at least this reason, the objection of claim 6 is improper. However, claim 2 has been canceled via the amendments set forth herein thereby mooted the objection to claim 6. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 6 be withdrawn.

Response to §102 Rejections

A proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that a single prior art reference disclose each element of the claim. See, e.g., *W.L. Gore & Assoc., Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). "Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires the presence in a single prior art disclosure of **each and every** element of the claimed invention." *Lewmar Marine, Inc. v. Barent, Inc.*, 827 F.2d 744, 747; 3 U.S.P.Q.3d 1766 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Claim 1

Claim 1 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record* (U.S. Patent No. 5,625,821). Claim 1, as amended, reads as follows:

1. A computer system for selectively blocking event signals, comprising:
an operating system configured to detect an occurrence of an event and to transmit an event signal corresponding to said event; and
a translation system having a first data structure and configured to translate a first set of instructions from a program into a second set of instructions and to transmit said second set of instructions to said operating system for execution, said first data structure having a first value indicating whether said event signal is blocked, said first set of instructions incompatible with said operating system and said second set of instructions compatible with said operating system, said translation system configured to identify, within said first set of instructions, a system call for blocking or unblocking said event signal and to update said first value in said first data structure in response to said system call defined by said first set of instructions, said translation system configured to receive said event signal from said operating system and to transmit, to said program, a signal indicating said occurrence of said event in the absence of an indication from said first value that said event signal is blocked. (Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 1 highlighted hereinabove. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 1 is improper.

In this regard, it is alleged in the Office Action that *Record* teaches:

- "a. an operating system configured to detect an occurrence of an event and to transmit an event signal corresponding to said event (fig. 1/11);
- b. a first data structure having a first value indicating whether said event signal is blocked (fig. 1/28a, 45 and 47, col. 5 lines 4-30; fig. 13/226); and
- c. a device responsive to a system call for updating said first value in said first data structure (fig. 1/14a-d), said device configured to receive said event signal from said operating system (fig. 1/49) and to transmit a signal indicating said occurrence of said event in the absence of an indication from said first value that said event signal is blocked (fig. 1. Col. 4, lines 12-52; col. 5, lines 5-67; fig. 7 and 8, lines 20-67 and col. 8 lines 1-19)."

Figure 1 of *Record* appears to show an "operating system" 11 that is configured to selectively enable an "event monitor" to transmit an event signal to a program. See column 17, lines 7-28. However, *Record* fails to indicate that any blocking of event signals is performed by a "translation

system," as recited by claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that *Record* fails to disclose each feature of claim 1, and the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 6-8, 30, and 31

Claims 6-8 presently stand rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record*. In addition, claims 30 and 31 have been newly added via the amendments set forth herein. Applicants submit that the pending dependent claims 6-8, 30, and 31 contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. Since claim 1 should be allowed, as argued hereinabove, pending dependent claims 6-8, 30, and 31 should be allowed as a matter of law for at least this reason. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Claim 9

Claim 9 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record*. Claim 9, as amended, reads as follows:

9. A computer system for selectively blocking event signals, comprising:
an operating system configured to block an event signal if said operating system receives a system call for blocking said event signal;
a first data structure having a value indicating whether said event signal is blocked; and
a device responsive to said system call for controlling said value in said first data structure thereby indicating that said event signal is blocked, said device responsive to an event signal from said operating system for analyzing said value in order to determine whether said event signal is blocked,
wherein said device transmits a signal corresponding to said event signal when said device determines that said event signal is not blocked based on said value. (Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 9 highlighted hereinabove. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 9 is improper.

In this regard, it is apparently alleged in the Office Action that *Record* shows an "operating system" 11 that is configured to block an event signal. Even if such allegation is assumed to be true for argument's sake, Applicants respectfully submit that *Record* is nevertheless insufficient for rejecting claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102. In this regard, *Record* fails to disclose at least **both** "an operating system configured to block an event signal if said operating system receives a system call for blocking said event signal" **and** "a device responsive to said system call for controlling said value in said first data structure thereby indicating that said event signal is blocked...(and) responsive to an event signal **from said operating system** for analyzing said value in order to determine whether said event signal is blocked," as recited by claim 9. (Emphasis added).

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose each feature of claim 9. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 of claim 9 should be withdrawn.

Claims 11, 12, 32, and 33

Claims 11 and 12 presently stand rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record*. In addition, claims 32 and 33 have been newly added via the amendments set forth herein. Applicants submit that the pending dependent claims 11, 12, 32, and 33 contain all features of their respective independent claim 9. Since claim 9 should be allowed, as argued hereinabove, pending dependent claims 11, 12, 32, and 33 should be allowed as a matter of law for at least this reason. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Claim 15

Claim 15 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by

Record. Claim 15, as amended, reads as follows:

15. A method for selectively blocking event signals associated with an operating system, comprising the steps of:
receiving an event signal from said operating system;
translating a first set of instructions from a program into a second set of instructions, said first set of instructions incompatible with said operating system and including a system call for blocking said event signal, said second set of instructions compatible with said operating system;
transmitting said second set of instructions to said operating system for execution;
indicating that said event signal is blocked in response to said system call;
determining whether said event signal is blocked subsequent to said receiving step and based on said indicating step; and
delaying, based on said determining step, transmission of a signal corresponding to said event signal,
wherein said translating step comprises the step of omitting said system call from said second set of instructions such that said operating system is prevented from blocking said event signal based on said first set of instructions. (Emphasis added),

Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 9 highlighted hereinabove. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 9 is improper.

In this regard, it is apparently alleged in the Office Action that the "operating system" 11 of *Record* performs blocking of event signals. However, *Record* fails to disclose that blocking of an event signal is indicated in response to a "system call" wherein the "operating system" 11 is prevented from blocking the event signal by omitting the "system call" in a translated set of instructions. Accordingly, *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 9 highlighted above.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose each feature of claim 15. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 of claim 15 should be withdrawn.

Claim 16

Claim 16 presently stands rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record*. Applicants submit that the pending dependent claim 16 contains all features of its independent claim 15. Since claim 15 should be allowed, as argued hereinabove, pending dependent claims 16 should be allowed as a matter of law for at least this reason. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Claim 24

Claim 24 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record*. Claim 24 presently reads as follows:

24. A method for selectively blocking and unblocking event signals associated with operating systems, comprising the steps of:
receiving a signal from a program application;
determining if the signal is a blocking or an unblocking system call;
translating the signal from a form incompatible with said operating system into a form compatible with said operating system and if the signal is not a blocking signal or an unblocking signal, sending the translated signal to the operating system;
detecting an occurrence of an event;
identifying a signal handler in response to said detecting step;
determining, in response to said identifying step, that an operating system is enabled to notify said identified signal handler of said occurrence;
transmitting an event signal from said operating system in response to said determining step;
receiving said event signal;
maintaining a first data value indicative of whether said event signal is blocked;
analyzing said first data value in response to said receiving said event signal step;
transmitting a signal indicative of said occurrence of said event to said signal handler, based on said analyzing step, if said first data value indicates that said event signal is unblocked during said analyzing step;
updating a second data value, in response to said receiving said event signal step, if said first values indicates, during said analyzing step, that said event signal is blocked;
receiving a request to unblock said event signal;
updating said first data value in response to said receiving a request to unblock step; and

transmitting a signal indicative of said occurrence of said event to said signal handler in response to said receiving a request to unblock step and based on said second data value. (Emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 24 highlighted hereinabove. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claim 24 is improper.

In this regard, it is apparently alleged in the Office Action that the "EventMonitorEnable function" described at column 17, lines 7-28, performs the step of "determining, in response to said identifying step, that an operating system is enabled to notify said identified signal handler of said occurrence." However, after the "EventMonitorEnable function" determines that an event monitor is enabled, it appears that the event signal is transmitted to a signal handler. In particular, there does not appear to be any further analysis as to whether the event signal is blocked. Thus, *Record* fails to disclose at least the steps of "transmitting an event signal from said operating system **in response to said determining step,**" "receiving **said** event signal," "analyzing said first data value **in response to said receiving said event signal step,**" and "transmitting a signal indicative of said occurrence of said event to said signal handler, **based on said analyzing step,** if said first data value indicates that said event signal is blocked," as recited by claim 24.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose each feature of claim 24. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 of claim 24 should be withdrawn.

Claim 25

Claim 25 presently stands rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by *Record*. Applicants submit that the pending dependent claim 25 contains all features of its independent claim 24. Since claim 24 should be allowed, as argued hereinabove, pending dependent claim 25 should be allowed as a matter of law for at least this reason. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Claim 26

Claim 26 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by

Record. Claim 26, as amended, reads as follows:

26. A system for selectively blocking event signals, comprising:
an operating system configured to detect an occurrence of an event and to transmit an event signal corresponding to said event; and
a translation system having a first data structure and configured to translate a first set of instructions from a program into a second set of instructions and to transmit said second set of instructions to said operating system for execution, said first data structure having a first value indicating whether said event signal is blocked, said first set of instructions incompatible with said operating system and said second set of instructions compatible with said operating system, said translation system configured to identify, within said first set of instructions, a system call for blocking or unblocking said event signal and to update said first value in said first data structure in response to said system call, said translation system configured to receive said event signal from said operating system and to transmit, to said program, a signal indicating said occurrence of said event in the absence of an indication from said first value that said event signal is blocked, said device further configured to store a second value if said first value indicates that said event signal is blocked, said second value indicative of said occurrence of said event while said event signal was blocked, said device further configured to analyze said second value in response to an unblocking system call and transmit a particular signal when said second value indicates said occurrence of said event while said event signal was blocked. (Emphasis added).

For at least the reasons similar to those set forth hereinabove in the arguments for allowance of claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 26 highlighted above. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 of claim 26 should be withdrawn.

Claim 27

Claim 27 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by

Record. Claim 27, as amended, reads as follows:

27. A system for selectively blocking event signals, comprising:
an operating system configured to detect an occurrence of an event and to transmit an event signal corresponding to said event; and

a translation system having a first data structure and a second data structure, the translation system configured to translate a first set of instructions from a program into a second set of instructions and transmit said second set of instructions to an operating system, said first data structure having a plurality of first values, each of said plurality of values indicating whether a corresponding event signal is blocked, said second data structure having a plurality of second values, each of said plurality of second values corresponding to each of said plurality of first values, each of said second values indicating whether an event signal was received while said first value corresponding to said second value indicated that said event signal was blocked, said translation system responsive to system calls for controlling said plurality of first values in said first data structure and responsive to an event signal from said operating system for analyzing one of said plurality of first values corresponding to said event signal in order to determine whether said event signal is blocked,

wherein said translation system transmits a signal corresponding to said event signal when said translation system determines that said event signal is not blocked based on said one of said plurality of values and said translation system transmits another signal corresponding to said event signal, in response to an unblocking system call, when said translation system determines that said event signal was blocked based upon said one of said plurality of second values.
(Emphasis added).

For at least the reasons similar to those set forth hereinabove in the arguments for allowance of claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 27 highlighted above. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 of claim 27 should be withdrawn.

Claim 28

Claim 28 presently stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by

Record. Claim 28, as amended, reads as follows:

28. A method for selectively blocking event signals, comprising the steps of:

- receiving an event signal from an operating system, ***said operating system configured to block an event signal if said operating system receives a system call for blocking said event signal;***
- indicating that said event signal is blocked in response to said system call; ***discarding said system call without transmitting said system call to said operating system thereby preventing said operating system from blocking said event signal;***
- determining whether said event signal is blocked subsequent to said receiving step; and
- transmitting a signal corresponding to said event signal based on said determining step. (Emphasis added).

For at least the reasons similar to those set forth hereinabove in the arguments for allowance of claim 9, Applicants respectfully assert that *Record* fails to disclose at least the features of claim 28 highlighted above. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 of claim 28 should be withdrawn.

Claim 34

Claim 34 has been newly added via the amendments set forth herein. Applicants submit that the pending dependent claim 34 contains all features of its independent claim 28. Since claim 28 should be allowed, as argued hereinabove, pending dependent claim 34 should be allowed as a matter of law for at least this reason. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

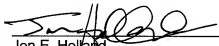
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding objections and rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

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